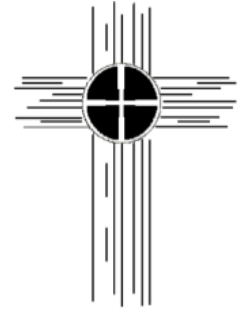


# The Newsletter of New Malden Methodist Church October 2017



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## Message from Karl

One day, when I was about eight, my mum announced that she'd lost her glasses again and asked me to help her look for them. For about half an hour, the two of us searched high and low, but there was no sign of them. Eventually, my brother emerged from his bedroom and asked us what we were doing. When my mum told him that we were hunting for her glasses, I remember he looked puzzled, and said, 'you're wearing them, mum'. The next day, mum made an optician's appointment!

Sometimes, it's hard to see what's right in front of us – literally in this case – and it takes a fresh pair of eyes to help us get a truer picture of what's happening. One of the gifts I hope that I can bring as a newly arrived minister is the fresh perspective of someone coming into our church community from the outside, and having become a Christian in my twenties, something of how things might appear to those who are unfamiliar with both this particular building, and Methodism more generally.

Since arriving in New Malden, I've been really encouraged to discover a church with a heart for its wider community, and a great asset in the coffee shop and welcome area. I've enjoyed meeting lots of friendly, welcoming and committed people, and there are many positive things to build on as we look beyond the recent anniversary celebrations to the next 150 years of ministry and mission in this place. However, there are also things, it looks to me, that we need to work on together.

With that in mind, I'd like to invite you to participate in a process of rebranding and refreshing, that I hope will help us make the most of what we have and connect with those currently on the outside of the church. Thus, over the next six months and with the help of Kate Pozzo (an expert in branding who has worked with many churches, including Surbiton Hill), we will be looking at:

Designing a new logo, which picks up on our beautiful mosaic and speaks clearly about who we are and what's important to us;

Improving the church website, in order to help attract and communicate with younger people;

Marketing the coffee shop more effectively, with a brand that appeals beyond church circles;

Making the most of the welcome area, with dedicated space for new welcome material, the possibility of new leaflet holders to

reduce clutter, and eye-catching signs for the coffee bar;

Thinking about signage on the windows, using the video screen more effectively and finding ways to make it clearer that the chapel is open for prayer and chilling out

If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions you would like to offer, please do get in touch with me; I'd love to hear from you. Finally, please pray that what emerges through this work will enable us to proclaim the love of God to those outside the church, make new connections, and build lasting relationships.

Every blessing,

Karl

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### **Roll out the barrel: Harvest Supper**

This year's Harvest Supper will take place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September and will be a game of two halves, as they say. The first half will be the familiar and fantastic pot luck supper in the lower hall. The second half will take place in the Church and will take the form of a "variety performance" so says Alison Bullett. I wondered if this meant a lot of 2<sup>nd</sup> rate acts interspersed with photos of Royals pretending to look engaged, but it does not. It means we will be singing old favourites around the piano – more like an impromptu East End(ers) sing-a-long. What's not to like? Fancy dress is optional so feel free to dig out an extravagant hat or blazer.

If you think you can provide a casserole or stew or pudding for 6-8 people for the first half, please let Julie Haines know. If you think you can help eat one (or more), then please buy a ticket from one of the stewards. £5 each, £3 for kids. 6.45pm start.

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### **A poem for Harvest**

Some of you may remember that last year Donald Finnan used a particularly poignant poem around Harvest time. A few people thought it deserved another airing and a wider audience so it can be found on the noticeboards in the Welcome Area.

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### **The Celaj Family**

Gillian Gillman and I went to Albania in September for our annual visit to see the Celaj family. Needless to say a warm welcome always awaits us and they make every effort to make our visit a happy one.

They arrived in New Malden in 1999 as illegal refugees and were sent back to Albania in 2003. Thanks to Gillian, she found out about ICA, the charity started in the 1990s by a British Army officer helping needy people in Albania. The Albanian director of the charity traced Elvis and Elvira, the two elder children through the school registers on a computer and in 2005 Gillian and David Gillman, Stella and Maurice Chattle, and myself made our first visit to Albania. Bleona, their youngest child, born in Kingston Hospital, celebrated her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday while we were there on that first visit so we had an English style party with birthday cake and candles.

Elvis is now 23 and living in Germany. Elvira is 22 and living with her Albanian boyfriend and their 2 year old daughter in East London, the country she longed to return to. Bleona at 16 is a good student and hopes to go to university. Garni and Drita remember the

kindness shown to them by the people in New Malden through the church, school and ICA, and thank everyone for the help they received when they were eventually found.

Greta Curry

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## The Organ Fund



This week the Church Council gave its approval for the Church to commit to work starting on the organ refurbishment from March, 2018, retaining Organ Pipe Services of Melton Mowbray, and the Organ Committee to launch the Organ Appeal with the intention of raising or having promises for the bulk of the £70 000 required by Christmas this year. The Finance Committee indicated how this might be achieved, including the allocation of a bequest and other funds of some £20 000.

During the next few weeks you will see a promotion in the Welcome Area explaining some background to the Organ Appeal, what the refurbishment will achieve and where we are in raising the money needed.

The Committee would like to express its gratitude to all who have already made generous donations amounting to nearly

£10 000 or commitments of financial support. We are, of course, always delighted to receive offers of fund-raising initiatives or donations which can be made by cheque payable to *New Malden Methodist Church* and given to The Treasurer, Gloria Taviner, clearly marked "for the Organ Fund" or by BACS payment to the Church account.

The refurbished organ will be a tremendous resource for enhancing our worship and for the wider musical community in New Malden.

Peter Bullett

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## How can you get involved in church life?

Isabel aged 8 has some thoughts.

Why not make the church a better place? Have you wondered if you could be a gardener? You can help Stella keep the flower beds looking beautiful for our new arrivals. Could you be a steward to keep the church in happy mode? Have you realised that we have some lovely singers in the church, maybe you are one of them, you could join the choir! Do you play a musical instrument, you could help Peter out some Sundays by playing some of the hymns. Have you realised how many people there are in the church, maybe you could bring your friends and family and make the Methodist congregation even bigger. If your kids do not already collect money for JMA then why not get them to come, you get badges and newsletters. Why not have some kids songs for big family celebrations such as Harvest like Harvest Samba which is very lively and would be fun for kids or more Christmas carols. Don't throw away your bottle lids you can bring them in and give them to Ali who collects them for charity. Don't forget Saturdays is coffee and cake plus weekdays

you can also have some coffee and juice. But remember we are always looking for volunteers to help with the coffee bar. It is open 10-2 Monday to Friday but Saturday 10-12! Remember we are often getting new arrivals, why not treat them to a drink and then chat to them afterwards. Now you remember to help the church with our needs.

If you think you can help in any way, complete the form below and give to one of the stewards.

Name

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Phone number

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How I can help

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Friends or family name who might join

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## Around the Circuit

### CIRCUIT NEWS

#### Circuit Service at Chessington Methodist Church

There will be a Circuit Service at Chessington at **6.30pm on Sunday 29 October**, and we hope you will be able to come along. The service will be led by Rev Andy Clark, and will be in a contemporary style on the theme

of prayer. More information will be available nearer the time.

#### Planning for Mission – How to make Your Church's Vision SOAR

Wendy Beard (District Learning and Development Officer) will be conducting a Mission Planning session on Wednesday 18 October at New Malden Methodist Church.

The session will run from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, and sandwiches will be available from 6.30. The session is also being advertised with a poster in your church, and we hope it will be well attended.

#### Caring and Befriending Training Days

Teddington Circuit has arranged two Caring and Befriending Training Days, which will take place at Sunbury Methodist church on Saturday 30 September and Saturday 28 October. The start time is 10.30am (with coffee available from 10 am), finishing at 3.30pm.

The training will be led by Wendy Beard, and is open to all. It will be especially helpful for Pastoral Visitors and those who see their ministry as welcoming and befriending. For more information see the poster displayed in your church. Please let Rev Vicci Davidson (Superintendent Minister for the Teddington Circuit) know if you would like to attend.

### CHURCH EVENTS

The Chessington Winter Fair takes place on Saturday 18 November, from 11.30am to 2pm. There will be Korean and British food and refreshments, the usual stalls, children's games, and you can visit Father Christmas. Everybody is welcome.

Forthcoming Concert: Classical Crossover Soprano Mary-Jess will be returning to Chessington Methodist Church on Saturday 18 November as part of her Winter Tour. The concert starts at 7.30 pm, and tickets are available at £15 each from John Harvey, or on-line at

<http://www.amickproductions.co.uk/mary-jess>

Drop In Fellowship takes place on the second Wednesday of each month in the Lower Hall at **Surbiton Hill** (from 1.45pm for a 2pm start).

### **November Newsletters**

If you have any news or a forthcoming event you would like to share with the Circuit, please forward details to Michael Axton at the Circuit Office *by Tuesday 10 October to:* [circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk)

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## **Summary of September NM Notices**

### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Message from **Andrea Mooton**:

I wish to thank you all for the many words of support, get well cards and lovely Church flowers and especially your prayers during my recent heart surgery. I'm recovering well and hope soon to be back to my usual routine. All was much appreciated.

Message from **Stella Chattle**:

Maurice has been in Derwent Ward for a week with very low blood pressure and diabetic problems. He is awaiting further "action".

Thank you for the prayers for their grandson George. He is much improved after a great deal of treatment and care.

**Rev Seok Hee Lee**, his wife Sookyoung Lee and his two daughters Sun Hwa and Sun Kyoung are regular worshippers in our church. He works for the charity DULA International. Recently he has been in North Korea working with disabled people and children but is now in China. Please pray for them in these troubled times.

**Eric Murray** is recovering from his recent fall and wishes to thank everybody for the concern they've shown and the help they've offered; it's been heart warming, *Eric*

### **3 Fs**

Those who have come – and hopefully enjoyed – our once a month evenings will confirm that beyond the sharing of food and fellowship, we generally discuss an issue of current interest from the perspective of our faith. And a good time is generally had by all concerned. *All are welcome to come.*

Andrew and Angie Turner will be hosting the next meeting on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November and David and Sue Knowles the one after that on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please let David (or Andrew) know if you are willing to host a future meeting: the sustainability of 3Fs depends on people being willing to host and/or lead meetings. David or Andrew would also be happy to explain more about what 3Fs involves to those interested in joining us.

### **The Methodist Church for World Mission**

Many thanks to those of you who use the World Mission boxes.

In 2016/17 this raised the sum of £55.43, which will be added to the Church donation to this charity. If there is anyone who would like to have a box at home for donating small change please mention it to me at a Sunday morning service or leave me a note in the pigeon hole. *David Knowles*

### **PEER TALK AWARENESS DAY**

*Facing Depression Together*

An opportunity to learn about depression from a clinical, personal and pastoral perspective, and how the Church can be a good neighbour to those living with depression and their families.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017

10.00am to 3.30pm

The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford  
Lunch provided

This free event is open to anyone who would like to attend

To book a place email

[circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk](mailto:circuitoffice@kingstonsircuit.org.uk)

or book

online: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peertalk-facing-depression-together-awareness-day-tickets-37145617542](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peertalk-facing-depression-together-awareness-day-tickets-37145617542)

### UNDER 3s

We hope you are aware that there is a childcare facility under the age of 3 during the services where there are toys and refreshments available. This is offered by members of the church community who have full DBS checks. You are invited to either drop your children off or stay with them for all or part of the service. This facility is in the kitchen at the back of the church. This happy band of volunteers could do with some extra names to go on the rota so that we all have an occasional Sunday off!

*Julia Morton*

### NEW ROLES IN THE DISTRICT

Property Development Officer –

<http://methodistlondon.org.uk/sites/default/files/Property%20Officer%20JD%20and%20OPS.pdf>

Grants & Accounts Officer -

<http://methodistlondon.org.uk/sites/default/files/Grants%20Accounts%20JD%20and%20PS.pdf>

Application forms and equality forms can be downloaded from the District website.

**Sam Redding**, Senior Admin Officer, London District of the Methodist Church  
020 7654 3850

### ***'Facing the future – Moral challenges in post-truth times'***

A joint Kingston University and All Saints Kingston public discussion series. Why do so many people feel *'left out and left behind'* by mainstream politics? What are the consequences? And what can be done to rebuild trust? Three free-standing discussions look at ***'Politics and Society'***; ***'The Economy and global finance'***; and ***'The Environment'***. Kingston University and King's College experts introduce the issues. **Ed Davey MP, Sir Vince Cable and Baroness Jenny Jones** open up audience discussions. **Thursday evenings 18:00 to 19:15, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>**

John Galsworthy Building, Penrhyn Road  
Free and unticketed. Tea/coffee from 17:30.

### Message from our Family Worker

Hi

Hope you are all settled in your new school classes and schools and that you have made new friends and are looking forward to participating in new exciting activities. As you get older, so the opportunities increase. Enjoy all of them in turn.

Imagine if you were to organise a party and none of the friends you invited could come. They gave different excuses. You would feel sad I imagine.

We are told in the Bible of a man who did just that. He prepared a feast and invited his friends along but they were all too busy or occupied with other things and couldn't come. This didn't make the man sad, it made him angry and he sent his servants out to find others to join in the feast. They did, bringing the poor, sick and needy to come instead. Imagine how surprised they were!

As we celebrate Harvest, we are going to concentrate on those without water, (you will be aware that in some parts of the world at the moment there is too much) and you may wonder what we can do about it but together we will act like the dripping of water into a glass. Each of us an individual droplet. When the container gets full it starts to overflow, making a difference. Just as the new guests at the feast shared and enjoyed the banquet.

So keep dripping.

God bless, Julia



## Diary Dates for October

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Amnesty

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

3.00pm Music in New Malden

Schubert Czernanigans

Ursula Monberg (natural Hn), John Irving (Pn)

Duos by Czerny and solo piano works by Schubert

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Senior Badminton

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>

7.30pm Meeting Point

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>

2.00pm Home Instead Memory Café in the Welcome Area

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Arthritis Care

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Kingston District Chamber Music Society Concert

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>

2.15pm Trinity Homecare Memory Café in the Welcome Area

7.00pm Junior Badminton

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

8.00pm Circuit Mission Planning Meeting

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

2.00pm Arts Group

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – VACANT

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>

7.00pm Senior Badminton

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

4.00pm Ed Davey MP Surgery in Church Office

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Coffee Bar – Flower Fund – Pam Wardley

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## Services in October

1<sup>st</sup> October – Reverend Rutledge – Harvest service

8<sup>th</sup> October – Reverend Rutledge

15<sup>th</sup> October Reverend Brown  
Café church with Reverend Rutledge in the evening

22<sup>nd</sup> October – Reverend Finnan – Holy Communion

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The deadline for the next issue is 9am 27<sup>th</sup> October to [carolineauty@hotmail.com](mailto:carolineauty@hotmail.com) or in the pigeon hole.